

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Korea	REPORT NO.	[REDACTED]
SUBJECT	Labor Party Cell Meetings in North Korea	DATE DISTR.	5 May 1954
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. In July 1953 in Sep'o-ri (N 39-53, E 127-50) four types of Labor Party (LP) cell meetings were held: regular, emergency, publicized meetings, and cell learning classes.<sup>1</sup> Meetings took place at the home of one of the cell members, as the village did not have a regular meeting hall. A party member was assigned to stand guard at the entrance to the building in which the meeting was held, and no one was permitted to loiter in the area while the meeting was in progress. Party members were instructed to keep the details of the sessions secret.
2. Regular cell meetings were held twice monthly. The program usually was opened with a few remarks by the cell chairman who then selected a cell member to inspect the membership cards of those present. A "leader group" consisting of the cell chairman, secretary, and about five members was elected. The chairman explained the subject for the meeting, the subject having been selected by the village LP headquarters. In rural areas the topic was usually an agricultural one, while in coastal villages it normally pertained to fishing matters. The chairman reported on past achievements and future plans, after which the cell members participated in group discussion. The meeting ended with the chairman summarizing the results of the meeting.
3. Emergency cell meetings were held when:
  - a. Special instructions were received from superior officers.
  - b. A critical development in the war occurred.
  - c. Unannounced house inspections were to be held (usually every two or three months). Party members were given instructions regarding where they were to be deployed while the house check was in progress.
  - d. Production quotas were not met. Meetings were held to stimulate greater productive efforts. In areas in which production was consistently low, the meetings were held frequently.

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- e. Instructions were received from higher LP headquarters to draft a certain number of men for military service. A meeting was called to discuss methods for filling the quota.
- 4. Publicized cell meetings were held once or twice a year, to promote friendly relations and cooperation between party members and the other villagers. Villagers who were not party members were allowed to attend, although attendance was not compulsory. Non-party members were permitted to criticize LP members and to cite their misbehavior. Members so criticized were made to engage in self-criticism and to promise to correct their shortcomings.
- 5. Learning classes, lasting two hours, were held once a week. All party members were required to attend, and attendance records were maintained. Each cell had a lecturer and an assistant lecturer who were informed by the county LP headquarters of the subject for each class, and were instructed on how to conduct the classes. Subjects included the organization of the North Korean government, the principles of the KIM Il-sung constitution, the fighting record of laborers and farmers during the Japanese occupation, the history of North Korea after the liberation, and LP principles and regulations. Party members were required to memorize the constitution and LP regulations. Repeated memory drills were held. Once a year a summarizing learning class was held in which a "guider" from the county LP headquarters visited the cell to determine how well the lecturers had conducted the classes and to ascertain how enthusiastic the members were.

- 25X1A 1. [REDACTED] Comment. Although this report concerns LP cell meetings in Sep'o-ri,  
 25X1A it is probably typical of village meetings throughout North Korea.  
 [REDACTED] Comment. [REDACTED] concerning the Sep'o-ri People's Committee  
 and Korean Labor Party. 25X1A

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